# An underlying component of Occupational Assessment: Family/Person-centred Practice (F/P-cP)

Informing Self and Others
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#### Step 3 Occupational Assessment

 The main purpose of assessing, whether using Standardised or non-standardised assessments is to achieve: Family/Person-centred Goals & Practice (F/P-cP).

 This is an underlying principle that influences occupational assessment regardless of the process or the context.

#### Step 3 Occupational Assessment

 Whether assessing with standardised instruments or not of assessments it is important to achieve mutual understanding between the Occupational Therapist and the Person/Family/client about the information gathered from the occupational assessment.

This is the first step in achieving F/P-cP/

### The first step in achieving F/P-cP: Mutual Understanding

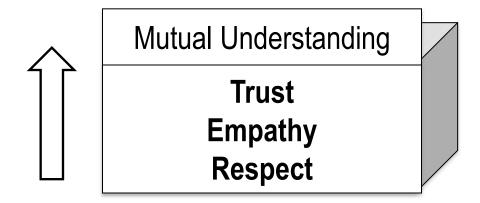
 This essential requirement of Occupational Therapy practice has three elements.

**Mutual Understanding** 

### The first step in achieving F/P-cP: Mutual Understanding

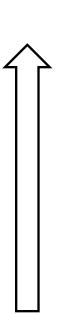
- It is built upon respect, which is unconditional positive regard of all people, whether the Person/client, their family/friends, colleagues or employers
- It requires demonstrations of empathy that empowers the Family/Person.
- It requires **trust** which develop from the above.

**Mutual Understanding** 



- Respect offers acceptance and values the Family/Person
- Empathy requires skill, time and commitment to Family/Person-centred practice
- Trust develops because of respect and empathy and requires the therapist to be predictable and reliable.

STEP ONE in this model



#### Mutual Understanding

Trust: Predictable & reliable

Empathy: Skill, time, commitment

Respect: Acceptance & value

Step One: Mutual Understanding facilitates creation of Step Two

Therapeutic Relationships

Mutual Understanding

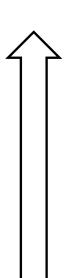
 A Therapeutic Relationship is essential in the practice process and develops from mutual understanding.

Step Two

The characteristics of, step two, include:

Therapeutic Relationships

- Rapport or a genuine connection (Step 1);
- Empowering the person to overcome barriers and achieve their goals
- Collaboration in all areas of practice to facilitate change so they an achieve Goals



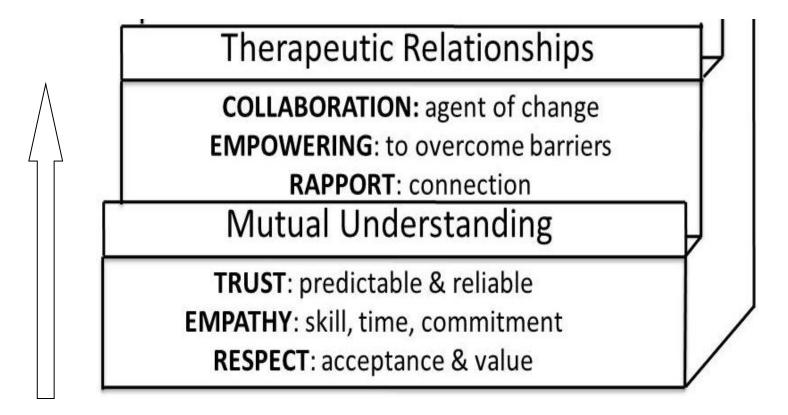
#### **Therapeutic Relationships**

Collaboration: agent of change

**Empowering:** to overcome barriers

Rapport: genuine connection

The first two steps



F/P-c GOALS & PRACTICE

 Effective listening is a significant element of occupational assessment that produces F/P-cG & P. Occupational Therapists should never underestimate the power of effective listening.

#### The final step:

#### F/P-c GOALS & PRACTICE

- The characteristics of the final step along with effective listening include:
- Positive emotions for all involved in the practice process, but for the Family/person produce feelings of control and thus positive outcomes.

Positive Outcomes
Positive Emotions
Effective Listening

#### This model of F/P-cP is essential in the OT Practice Process



A discussion of this model can be found in chapter 2 of the following book. The model is on page 18.

O'Toole, G. (2012). Communication: Core interpersonal skills for health professionals. (2nd ed.). Sydney, Australia: Elsevier.